

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [1] 7 wherein said support positions the mattress inner spring and border wire in one of a substantially vertical attitude and a substantially horizontal attitude.
3. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [1] 7 wherein said support positions the mattress inner spring and border wire in a substantially vertical attitude.
4. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [1] 7 wherein said movement generating system advances the mattress inner spring and border wire along said support such that said clip applicator secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire along an edge of the mattress inner spring, and thereafter rotates the mattress inner spring and border wire 90° to present another edge of the mattress inner spring and border wire to said clip applicator for application of the clips thereto.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [5] 7 wherein said track is tubular having a substantially rectangular cross-section marginally larger than a cross-section of the strip of clips.

7. (Previously Presented) A machine for securing a border wire on a mattress inner spring comprising:

a support for supporting the mattress inner spring and border wire;

a clip applicator for applying clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire to secure the border wire to the mattress inner spring;

a movement generating system for effecting relative movement between the mattress inner spring and border wire, and said clip applicator, such that said clip applicator successively secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire around a perimeter of the mattress inner spring;

a controller controlling activation and deactivation of said clip applicator and movement generating system; and

a clip applicator feed system configured to receive and feed to said clip applicator a plurality of non-coiled strips of clips;

wherein said clip applicator feed system comprises a track along which the strips of clips travel, said track having a first feed end into which an operator feeds strips of clips and a second clip applicator end operably connected to said clip applicator for supplying the clips to said clip applicator;

said support comprises a first portion against which one edge of the mattress inner spring and border wire rests and a second portion against which one side of the mattress inner spring and border wire rests, and wherein said first feed end of said track is accessible to an operator through said second portion of said support.

8. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [5] 7 wherein said track includes at least one clip feed device which moves the strips of clips along said track.

9. (Previously Presented) A machine for securing a border wire on a mattress inner spring comprising:

a support for supporting the mattress inner spring and border wire;

a clip applicator for applying clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire to secure the border wire to the mattress inner spring;

a movement generating system for effecting relative movement between the mattress inner spring and border wire, and said clip applicator, such that said clip

applicator successively secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire around a perimeter of the mattress inner spring;

a controller controlling activation and deactivation of said clip applicator and movement generating system; and

a clip applicator feed system configured to receive and feed to said clip applicator a plurality of non-coiled strips of clips;

wherein said clip applicator feed system comprises a track along which the strips of clips travel, said track having a first feed end into which an operator feeds strips of clips and a second clip applicator end operably connected to said clip applicator for supplying the clips to said clip applicator;

wherein said track includes at least one clip feed device which moves the strips of clips along said track;

wherein said clip feed device comprises an air cylinder.

10. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [5] 9 wherein said track includes a low clip sensing device which senses a low clip condition of said clip applicator feed system.

11. (Original) The machine of claim 10 wherein said low clip sensing device comprises a proximity switch.

12. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [5] 9 wherein said track includes a pair of clip feed devices which move the strips of clips along said track, and a low clip sensing device, disposed between said pair of clip feed devices, which senses a low clip condition of said clip applicator feed system.

13. (Previously Presented) A machine for securing a border wire on a mattress inner spring comprising:

a support for supporting the mattress inner spring and border wire;

a clip applicator for applying clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire to secure the border wire to the mattress inner spring;

a movement generating system for effecting relative movement between the mattress inner spring and border wire, and said clip applicator, such that said clip applicator successively secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire around a perimeter of the mattress inner spring;

a controller controlling activation and deactivation of said clip applicator and movement generating system; and

a clip applicator feed system configured to receive and feed to said clip applicator a plurality of non-coiled strips of clips;

wherein said clip applicator feed system comprises a track along which the strips of clips travel, said track having a first feed end into which an operator feeds strips

of clips and a second clip applicator end operably connected to said clip applicator for supplying the clips to said clip applicator;

wherein said track includes a pair of clip feed devices which move the strips of clips along said track, and a low clip sensing device, disposed between said pair of clip feed devices, which senses a low clip condition of said clip applicator feed system;

wherein said clip feed devices comprise air cylinders, and said low clip sensing device comprises a proximity switch.

14. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [1] 13 wherein the mattress inner spring has a pair of border wires positioned in opposed relation on opposite sides thereof, and wherein said machine comprises a pair of clip applicators for applying the clips to the mattress inner spring and the pair of border wires to secure the border wires to the mattress inner spring.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [15] 13 wherein said support positions the mattress inner spring and border wire in one of a substantially vertical attitude and a substantially horizontal attitude.

17. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [15] 13 wherein said support positions the mattress inner spring and border wire in a substantially vertical attitude.

18. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [15] 13 wherein said movement generating system advances the mattress inner spring and border wire along said support such that said clip applicator secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire along an edge of the mattress inner spring, and thereafter rotates the mattress inner spring and border wire 90° to present another edge of the mattress inner spring and border wire to said clip applicator for application of the clips thereto.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [19] 13 wherein said track is tubular having a substantially rectangular cross-section marginally larger than a cross-section of the strip of clips.

21. (Previously Presented) A machine for securing a border wire on a mattress inner spring comprising:

a support for supporting the mattress inner spring and border wire;

a clip applicator for applying clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire to secure the border wire to the mattress inner spring;

a movement generating system for effecting relative movement between the mattress inner spring and border wire, and said clip applicator, such that said clip applicator successively secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire around a perimeter of the mattress inner spring;

a clip applicator feed system configured to receive and feed to said clip applicator a plurality of non-coiled strips of clips; and

a controller controlling activation and deactivation of said clip applicator, movement generating system and clip applicator feed system;

wherein said clip applicator feed system comprises a track along which the strips of clips travel, said track having a first feed end into which an operator feeds strips of clips and a second clip applicator end operably connected to said clip applicator for supplying the clips to said clip applicator;

wherein said support comprises a first portion against which one edge of the mattress inner spring and border wire rests and a second portion against which one side of the mattress inner spring and border wire rests, and wherein said first feed end of said track is accessible to an operator through said second portion of said support.



22. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [19] 21 wherein said track includes at least one clip feed device which moves the strips of clips along said track.

23. (Previously Presented) A machine for securing a border wire on a mattress inner spring comprising:

a support for supporting the mattress inner spring and border wire;

a clip applicator for applying clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire to secure the border wire to the mattress inner spring;

a movement generating system for effecting relative movement between the mattress inner spring and border wire, and said clip applicator, such that said clip applicator successively secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire around a perimeter of the mattress inner spring;

a clip applicator feed system configured to receive and feed to said clip applicator a plurality of non-coiled strips of clips; and

a controller controlling activation and deactivation of said clip applicator, movement generating system and clip applicator feed system;

wherein said clip applicator feed system comprises a track along which the strips of clips travel, said track having a first feed end into which an operator feeds strips of clips and a second clip applicator end operably connected to said clip applicator for supplying the clips to said clip applicator;

wherein said track includes at least one clip feed device which moves the strips of clips along said track;

wherein said clip feed device comprises an air cylinder.

24. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [19] 23 wherein said track includes a low clip sensing device which senses a low clip condition of said clip applicator feed system.

25. (Original) The machine of claim 24 wherein said low clip sensing device comprises a proximity switch.

26. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [19] 23 wherein said track includes a pair of clip feed devices which move the strips of clips along said track, and a low clip sensing device, disposed between said pair of clip feed devices, which senses a low clip condition of said clip applicator feed system.

27. (Previously Presented) A machine for securing a border wire on a mattress inner spring comprising:

a support for supporting the mattress inner spring and border wire;

a clip applicator for applying clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire to secure the border wire to the mattress inner spring;

a movement generating system for effecting relative movement between the mattress inner spring and border wire, and said clip applicator, such that said clip applicator successively secures the clips to the mattress inner spring and the border wire around a perimeter of the mattress inner spring;

a clip applicator feed system configured to receive and feed to said clip applicator a plurality of non-coiled strips of clips; and

a controller controlling activation and deactivation of said clip applicator, movement generating system and clip applicator feed system;

wherein said clip applicator feed system comprises a track along which the strips of clips travel, said track having a first feed end into which an operator feeds strips of clips and a second clip applicator end operably connected to said clip applicator for supplying the clips to said clip applicator;

wherein said clip feed devices comprise air cylinders, and said low clip sensing device comprises a proximity switch.

28. (Currently Amended) The machine of claim [15] 27 wherein the mattress inner spring has a pair of border wires positioned in opposed relation on opposite sides thereof, and wherein said machine comprises a pair of clip applicators for

applying the clips to the mattress inner spring and the pair of border wires to secure the border wires to the mattress inner spring.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)